

THE PREMISE

Nobody
signs a delay.

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**A refusal has an
author, a date
and a reason.
A delay has none
of these.**

A refusal can be challenged. A delay can only be endured.

TWO WAITINGS

Waiting imposed. Waiting *chosen*.

The same posture. Not the same position. Telling them apart is the day's task.

HOUSE RULE

There is no question time.

No question is asked from the floor. None is answered today. Write it on a slip; it waits on the debate wall for its answer. No question is refused.

THE PEOPLE WHO WAIT · YOUR RULE

**You may ask.
You may not be told.**

THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILY · YOUR RULE

**You may ask for
someone else.
Never for yourself.**

THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS · YOUR RULE

**Never no.
Never why.
Never when.**

15:50 · THE HEARING · THE MOTION

That deferral is denial.

The motion is put to the room. Those who wait speak first; their friends and family second; the officials last, in the passive voice. Judgment is reserved.

CARE, PLAINLY

The waiting is staged. It is never punitive.

- Step out at any moment: turn your ticket face-down. You need not explain.
- Everyone is fed, whatever their form says.
- Allergies and religious requirements: the labelled table, always.
- Not well, or not comfortable? Tell any official — they will drop the role.
- No camera? Take a no-camera marker at the door.

THE CANTEEN

Everyone is fed.

Whatever the form says. Whatever the clock says.



Waiting: Deferral Without Denial

Lecture Hall · Department of Journalism · it will begin shortly



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